Clusters by the side of rail track

1182. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that JJ clusters located by the side of rail tracks in the capital pose a grave danger to the safety of running trains;

(b) whether Government have ever visualized the magnitude of a mishap in case of derailment around such concentrations on the ring railway and other rail track specially of trains carrying tonnes of inflammable material; and

(c) if so, the details of action plan to clear these encroachments in a phased manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to remove all types of encroachments on Railway land in Delhi area, with special emphasis of removal of encroachments near the tracks. Such encroachments are removed as per provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971; Railways Act, 1989; and as per the Resettlement & Rehabilitation policy of the State Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Filling of posts in Railway Police

†1183. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board had given consent for filling up 4370 posts of railway police personnel in the year 2000-01;

(b) whether the pending amount to meet the expenditure incurred on these activities have not been released;

(c) whether the amount of 23.81 crores of rupees had been spent on filling of 1322 posts;

(d) what policy Government have adopted to refund the amount to the Department of Railways under the Government of Maharashtra; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details pertaining to amount spent on filling of posts of Railway police personnel (GRP) are not maintained by Ministry of Railways. Filling of posts of Railway police personnel is the job performed by respective State Governments.

(d) and (e) With effect from 1.4.79, the cost of Government Railway Police (without distinction of 'Crime' and 'Order Police') is shared between the State Government and Railways on 50:50 basis, provided that the strength of GRP is determined with the approval of Railways. For this purpose of calculating Railway's share of cost of GRP, the following is included:—

(i) Pay and all type of allowances in respect of GRP staff including office and supervisory staff upto the level of Inspector General of Police provided they are exclusively in-charges of GRP.

(ii) Office expenses and contingencies.

(iii) Cost of pensionery charges.

(iv) Cost of rent of building occupied by GRP staff.

Withdrawal of Shatabdi Express between Howrah and Patna

1184. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shatabdi Express Trains running between Howrah and Patna have been withdrawn after its two years run;

(b) if so, whether it was due to mismanagement of Railway Administration that this prestigious train was discontinued; and

(c) what are other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) 2023/2024 Howrah-Patna Shatabdi Express has been replaced by Howrah-Patna Jan Shatabdi Express due to poor patronisation.